



## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS**

**The Monthly Electronic Newsletter of  
Homeland Security and Emergency Management**  
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The Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant on the Connecticut River in Vernon, Vt.

**VY SHUT DOWN DUE TO LEAK** – The Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant was shut down on Nov. 5 when a leak of radioactive water from a pipe in the plant's water feed room was discovered. The leak, which amounted to about 60 drops per minute, came from a weld in a 24-inch diameter water feed pipe. Radioactivity was contained at the plant site. VY was shut down to allow workers to re-weld the pipe. The plant resumed operations on Nov. 11. A plant spokesman said there was no danger to the public or plant workers during the operation.

**VY OWNERS EXPLORE POSSIBLE SALE** – Vermont Yankee's parent company, Entergy Corporation, announced on Nov. 4 that it is exploring a possible sale of the Vernon, Vt.-based plant. Entergy officials said no decision had been made on whether to sell VY, but it expected interest from a number of parties. They said the sale was being conducted on a confidential basis and no further information would be released about it.

Entergy is seeking a 20-year extension of VY's operating license, which is set to expire in 2012. The license extension effort has encountered political opposition in Vermont, where legislative approval of the action is required. Entergy is headquartered in New Orleans. It acquired Vermont Yankee in 2002.

**IAC BEGINS OPERATION** – New Hampshire has a new facility to watch for a wide variety of hazards that could threaten the state. The Information and Analysis Center, or IAC, began operations on Aug. 9. Housed at the Incident Planning and Operations Center in Concord, headquarters of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the mission of the IAC is to provide an integrated all-crimes, all-hazards information-sharing network. It collects and analyzes information from a variety of sources on crime, terrorism and natural hazards and disseminates it to stakeholders to protect the people and critical infrastructure of New Hampshire. The IAC was established by RSA 651-F, which took effect last May 19. It is designed to operate in accordance with New Hampshire and U.S. laws to protect the privacy, civil rights and civil liberties of state residents.

The IAC is staffed by personnel from HSEM, State Police and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. They maintain contact with the FBI, Transportation Security Administration, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other state and federal partners.

**SEABROOK SIREN DEMONSTRATION SUCCESSFUL** – For the third time in as many years Seabrook Station, in cooperation with the State of New Hampshire and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has successfully tested the plant's Public Alert and Notification System (PANS) sirens. At 12:30 on Wednesday, Nov. 10, all 121 sirens in the Seabrook Emergency Planning Zone sounded with a steady tone for 3-5 minutes. The demonstration was preceded with a public information campaign so that people in the area would know that there was no real emergency. In New Hampshire, the state's 911 call centers and Rockingham County Dispatch received a total of about two dozen calls from people seeking information about the sirens.

**TWO HSEM STAFFERS MOVE ON** – Two members of the HSEM Planning Section accepted new positions and left the agency this month. Steven Finnegan, assistant chief, is now emergency management coordinator at Elliot Hospital. Richard Verville, hazard mitigation specialist, has moved to FEMA Region I in Boston, where he continues work on hazard mitigation projects. Finnegan, who was with HSEM for about a year, worked on the response to last spring's windstorm and floods. Verville was with the agency for six years. He worked on more than 100 hazard mitigation projects around the state, including the federal buyout of flood prone homes in Allenstown, Salem and Rochester.

Applications for another 33 buyouts and 23 hazard mitigation projects associated with this year's windstorm and floods are in the works. Emergency management directors with questions about applications in progress should contact their HSEM field representative or Lance Harbour, hazard mitigation planner, at 223-3633.

**WEBINAR AVAILABLE TO EXPLAIN ADA** – The U.S. Department of Justice has made available a prerecorded webinar to help state and local officials understand how the Americans with Disabilities Act and other federal disability rights laws apply to emergency management. The program also covers some of the problems faced by people with disabilities in accessing emergency and disaster related services, programs and facilities, and highlights steps to increase accessibility. Access the webinar at this link: <http://www.citizencorps.gov/news/webcasts/disabilities.shtm>.

**SBA LOANS AVAILABLE FOR CHESHIRE AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES** – The U.S. Small Business Administration has low-interest loans available for small businesses, small agriculture cooperatives and most private non-profit organizations located in Cheshire and Sullivan counties. These counties are eligible because they are adjacent to Vermont counties that received disaster declarations because of drought and excessive heat that began on June 1, 2010. The SBA says the two New Hampshire counties were included in the declaration because the effects of a disaster do not stop at county or state lines. The loans are for 30 years. Applicants may seek loans up to \$2 million.

Those affected by the disaster may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. Applications must be returned to SBA no later than July 5, 2011.

**STORM BRINGS WINDS AND MINOR FLOODING TO SEACOAST** – A strong ocean storm moved into New Hampshire on Sunday night, Nov. 7, causing minor coastal flooding at high tide in Hampton Beach and scattered power outages around the state. Public Service of New Hampshire reported several thousand customers out of power in the Monadnock Region and in the Newport area. Wind gusts reached 40 mph, according to the National Weather Service. Power was restored to all customers by the following day. No injuries or damage were reported.

In Maine, the storm caused more widespread power outages. Gov. John Baldacci declared a limited state of emergency to aid in power restoration.



*Happy Thanksgiving from N.H. Homeland Security  
and Emergency Management*

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